NOTE XXIV.

ON THE GENERA UBANIUS SENNA, AND PSALOBRENTHUS (SHARP)

BY

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In Vol. XVI of »Notes from the Leyden Museum" Dr. Senna described some new Brenthidæ, among them *Ubanius æneus* (n. g. and n. sp.) from Central America. The species was characterised from three examples, one male of unknown habitat in the collection of the Brussels Museum, one female from Mexico in the Rothschild Museum, and a second female, said to be from Chiriqui, in Dr. Senna's collection.

At this time my descriptions of the Central American Brenthidæ were completed, but on receiving Dr. Senna's paper I was able by the kindness of the Honorable Walter Rothschild to compare the female of *Ubanius æneus* in his collection with the rich series of Central American Brenthidæ of Messrs. Godman and Salvin that had formed the material for the work since published [1]). His specimen quite agreed with an insect from Mexico I had described under the name of *Episphales potens*, n. sp. I accordingly suppressed the name I had intended to use, replacing it by that of *Ubanius æneus* Senna.

1) Biol. Centr.-Amer. Col. IV, part 6.

Since the publication of my descriptions Dr. Senna has written to me telling me that he is of opinion that the insect I described and figured in the work mentioned, under the name of *Psalobrenthus solitarius* from a single individual found in Costa Rica, is the same as his *Ubanius æneus* ♂, and has kindly sent me his specimen to enable me to compare the two.

I have now before me all the specimens known to exist of the two supposed genera and species (except the Chiriqui female, and that I have also seen previously) and am able to say that Dr. Senna's opinion as to the identity of *Ubanius æneus* ♂ and *Psalobrenthus solitarius* ♂ is correct. I have also no doubt that *Ubanius æneus* ♂ and ♀ of Senna are different species. Whether they are different genera cannot at present be decided, owing to the insufficient material not enabling us to compare the sexes of each. We know, in fact, only the male of one and the female of the other, and the genera of Brenthidæ are established almost entirely on the characters of the male.

It thus becomes necessary to decide whether the name *Ubanius æneus* shall apply to the insect of which we know the male only, or to that of which we know the female only: and I think the application of the name to the male is in this case clearly the correct course.

Under these circumstances the insect described by me as *Ubanius æneus* is without a name, and I now therefore propose to call it *U. potens*. The type in the collection of Messrs. Godman and Salvin agrees exactly with that in the Rothschild Museum, and with the one in Dr. Senna's collection.

Another female from Belize, British Honduras, from the Rothschild Museum, also communicated to me by Dr. Senna is only about half the size and is somewhat differently sculptured so that it may be either a variety of *U. potens* or a closely allied species.

The synonymy will be as follows:

Ubanius Senna.

Psalobrenthus Sharp.

1. *Ubanius æneus* ♂, Senna, Notes Leyd. Mus. XVI, p. 222.
   Psalobrenthus solitarius Sharp, Biol. Centr.-Amer. Col. IV, part 6, p. 41, pl. 2, fig. 10.
   Hab. Costa Rica.
2. *Ubanius potens* Sharp, nom. nov.
   Ubanius æneus ♀, Senna, loc. cit.
   Hab. Mexico, Chiriqui (?).
   var. minor (an species distincta?).
   Hab. Belize, British Honduras.

Cambridge, Nov. 2nd 1895.